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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

18 January 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: National Foreign Intelligence Board

FROM:

[REDACTED]
Special Assistant for Nuclear Proliferation
Intelligence

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SUBJECT: Change in Memorandum to Holders of SNIE 6-78
Scheduled for NFIB Review on 19 January 1982

At the request of the DCI and Chairman, NIC the following
new opening paragraph replaces the current opening paragraph in
the Key Judgments section of subject memorandum to holders.

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Attachment:
As Stated

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New Opening Paragraph:

A nuclear terrorist incident, even one that technically might be of minor import, could have immediate and far-reaching impact on US nuclear policies. At a minimum, it would force a reexamination of the adequacy of all US nuclear security practices. A nuclear terrorist attack occurring in Western Europe, especially in a NATO country, would add impetus and public support to the increasingly popular "peace movements," to press for the removal of all US nuclear weapons from the soil of the nation affected, and possibly all of Western Europe. A terrorist attack on a nuclear power plant, especially one that resulted in a large-scale release of radioactivity, could generate political pressures that would cripple the US nuclear industry. These judgments and our concern that the continuous spread of nuclear facilities and technology has created new possibilities for terrorists to create nuclear incidents warrant a reassessment of the probability that such actions will occur.

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